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VALUABLE

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC WARFARE

1. Background

Evidence is not lacking that there is widespread opposition to the existing regime in Albania though no reliable estimate can yet be formed of its strength. The following indications support this conclusion:-

- (a) It is well known, and has in fact been admitted by the Deputy Premier and Minister of the Interior in a recent broadcast, that the country's economic situation is extremely difficult and precarious.
- (b) A Civil Defense Force has been formed.
- (c) Reports of pro-TITO revolt by certain elements of the National Army.
- (d) Bandit activities in some districts near to the Yugoslav frontier.
- (e) Peasant opposition to co-operative farming and to the oppressive and forcible exaction of such a high proportion of their produce that they cannot live on what is left to them.
- (f) Evidence given by refugees that, in the DUKATI area for example, dissidents who have to take to the mountains received much help from the local inhabitants.
- (g) The help which our PILGRIM parties must have received from the local population in the districts they traversed and in the area (BERRAT) where BATH is now established. These districts lie in the part of the country where the Security Authorities are most alert and vigilant.

It is clear, therefore, that political warfare offers a fruitful field of exploitation, of which full advantage should be taken. Delay in doing so may result in valuable opportunities being missed.

2. Possibilities of Subversive Action

Subject to more detailed study the following methods are open to us:-

(A) Propaganda.

(1) Broadcasting.

- (a) of factual information by B.B.C. and Voice of America. This is subject to the limitation that, in the case of the B.B.C. at all events, we cannot compel but can only try and persuade them to publicise information passed to them. Furthermore, they might not be prepared to use information the source of which, e.g. our PILGRIM parties, could not be revealed.
- (b) by clandestine radio either from a vessel at sea or from a static land station if a suitable site can be found. This subject is dealt with further in para 4. below.
- (c) Distribution of leaflets by air dropping. See para 3(d) below.
- (d) The use of a visual emblem on written propaganda and perhaps of a musical phrase in broadcasts.
- (e) Deception rumours.

(B) Infiltration of forged currency.

Samples of the paper currency which is now legal tender in Albania have been obtained and its reproduction is under examination. This, however, will take time - possibly six months or so. The policy aspect of this operation is under examination. Various high-level clearances will have to be obtained before action can be taken.

(C) Fostering the black market.

The doubtful effect of encouraging an already flourishing black market might be deemed not to be worth the considerable effort involved.

(D) Sabotage of incoming supply ships.

A difficult type of operation requiring complicated detailed planning, to say nothing of Foreign Office and State Department clearance.

(E) Subversion of Albanian Government Missions abroad and inducement of prominent supporters of the regime to defect.

3. Machinery of Propaganda

(a) Direction and control.

Should be exercised by the Joint Policy Committee in WASHINGTON, in consultation with the General Committee for Free Albania, in so far as this exists as an entity, in NEW YORK.

(b) Executive Centre.

This should be set up in ATHENS or ROME with a small but well qualified Anglo-American-Albanian staff. Its functions, under the general direction and control of the Joint Policy Committee, would be:-

- (i) to prepare material for broadcasts and leaflets based on all available sources of information and on suggestions submitted by the Executive Committee for Free Albania and others,
- (ii) to translate this material into Albanian,
- (iii) to transmit the finished product to

LONDON for the B.B.C.	} for overt broadcasting. for covert broadcasting.
WASHINGTON (O.P.C.) for the Voice of America	
the clandestine radio station	
the production centre for leaflets.	

(c) Production of written propaganda .

We understand that O.P.C. dispose of the means of printing leaflets and other written propaganda material. It is therefore suggested that the finished product turned out by the Executive Centre should be sent by air to O.P.C. in WASHINGTON with an indent for the number of copies required. The leaflets in their final printed form would then be despatched, also by air, to the Distributing Centre.

(d) Distributing Centre.

It is safe to assume that almost, if not all, printed material would have to be distributed inside Albania by dropping from the air.

Leaflet-dropping flights could be worked in with the infiltration by air of further TIGRIN parties which may be carried out during the next few months. It is not possible to decide at this stage the point or points from which systematic flights of this nature would be carried out, so that, pending the establishment of despatching bases for these infiltrations, leaflet-dropping raids would be launched from whatever point was most suitable in each case.

4. Glendinning Broadcasting

(a) From a land station.

The political and security implications of this method are obvious and need not be elaborated. Suffices it to say that if a site combining geographical suitability with a minimum of political and security objections could be found, the practical problems calling for solution would be very greatly simplified.

(b) From a floating station.

Four vessels have been inspected and found generally suitable. They must now be examined by an O.P.C. expert to see which of them most nearly fulfills the technical requirements. The selected boat must then be surveyed in detail before negotiations for purchase can be initiated. Further progress at the moment awaits decision by O.P.C.

The vessel would be based on Malta or Corfu or, if the co-operation of the Italians and/or Greeks in Operation VALHALLA is obtained, on some Italian or Greek mainland port. It would be equipped with a short-wave broadcasting transmitter and with W/T. It would make two or three half-hour missions a day, consisting of a news bulletin, commentary, talks and entertainment. A small editorial, announcing and technical maintenance staff would/carry. Bulletins /be would be made up from material monitored on board, together with news items virelensed by the Executive Centre which would also give guidance on treatment of the news. Provided it were adequately qualified to do so, the editorial team would, under guidance by the Executive Centre, also compose the political commentaries. Talks, music and other entertainment would be provided in the form of wire recordings made at the Executive Centre or elsewhere under proper control. These recordings would be picked up by the ship on its weekly visit to its base. Careful arrangements must be devised for the regular supply of these recordings to the floating station.

The station would purport to be the mouthpiece of the Committee for Free Albania.

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1. Executive Centre (see para 3(b) of report)

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Personnel of this unit should consist of:-

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Editor | (American or British) | |
| 1 Assistant editor | (British or American) | |
| 2 Sub-editor/announcers | (English-speaking Albanians) | 7 US & 1 UK |
| 2 Monitors | (of which 1 Albanian-speaking) | |
| 2 Typists | (of which 1 Albanian-speaking) | |
| 1 Clerk | (British or American) | |
| 2 Printer | | |

Equipment

- Wireless reception equipment.
- 2 Wire-recording and "play-back" equipments complete (1 spare).
- Stock of commercial musical wire-recordings including as many as possible of Albanian vocal and instrumental music.

Accommodation

In addition to 3 or 4 rooms for offices, accommodation to include a sound-proof studio for recording.

NOTE: It is assumed that the Centre, if in ATHENS, would be housed in or close to the premises occupied by the Joint Security Board, whose W/T facilities would be available to it. If the Centre were established elsewhere where no W/T facilities were available, these would have to be provided.

The W/T arrangements will require careful consideration both from the technical and security points of view.

In the event of Greek co-operation in VALUABLE being obtained (para 4(b) of report) the Greek Government might agree to the establishment of a static broadcasting station on GORFU, i.e. as part of VALOUR base. In that case this might well prove the most convenient site for the Executive Centre also.

2. Floating Broadcasting Station (see para 4(b) of report)

Personnel (excluding ship's company)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 1 Editor | <i>Editor/Writer</i> | (British or American, preferably Albanian-speaking) |
| 1 Assistant editor/announcer | | (English-speaking Albanian) |
| 1 W/T operator/maintenance technician | | (American or British) |
| 1 Codist | | " " " |

NOTE: 1 Reserve W/T operator/maintenance technician (American or British) should be held at the ship's shore base.

Equipment

- Short-wave broadcasting transmitter.
- W/T transmitter/receiver.
- Radio receiver for broadcast reception.
- Wire recording play-back.
- Power generator.
- Two weeks supply of wire recordings.

NOTE: The wire recording and play-back equipments at the Executive Centre and the floating or static broadcasting station must be of the same type.

/2. Accommodation.

Accommodation

Sound-proof studio.

W/T room.

Transmitter room.

Accommodation for power supply unit.

Storage for spares, wire recordings etc.

Living accommodation for 4 men.

NOTE: The above requirements would hold good if a static, as opposed to a floating, station were set up.
